

Appl. No. 10/616,471  
Reply to Notice of December 7, 2004

**REMARKS**

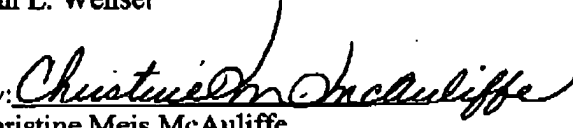
Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan L. Wensel

December 20, 2004

By:   
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